

Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1-17 (cancelled)

1 18 (new): In a system for measuring a physiological parameter using at least one
2 wavelength of electromagnetic energy transmitted through living tissue, a method for
3 determining an operational status of the system comprising the steps of:
4 receiving a data signal from at least one sensor;
5 determining whether the received data signal is representative of the physiological
6 parameter by sensing whether the at least one sensor is secured to the living tissue; and
7 generating a status signal representative of the operational status of the system
8 based on the determining step.

1 19 (new): The method of claim 18 wherein the determining step comprises the
2 step of measuring an output level corresponding to the at least one wavelength.

1 20 (new): The method of claim 18 wherein the system uses at least two
2 wavelengths of electromagnetic energy to measure the physiological parameter, and the
3 determining step comprises the step of monitoring a correlation between data corresponding to a
4 first wavelength and data corresponding to a second wavelength.

1 21 (new): The method of claim 18 wherein the determining step comprises the
2 step of analyzing a spectrum corresponding to the at least one wavelength to determine a
3 percentage of energy contained in a subset of the spectrum.

1 22 (new): The method of claim 18 wherein the determining step comprises the
2 step of monitoring an amplitude of the data signal for a first interval.